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### Death Takes Mrs. Tucker

Funeral services for Mrs. Carmel Lee Tucker, 69, of 2220 1/2 West 231st street, were held in the Stone and Myers Chapel last Saturday afternoon.

Rev. Oscar C. Butterfield, of the South Gate Assembly of God church, officiated.

A native of Yorkville, Tennessee, Mrs. Tucker had lived in Torrance 11 years prior to her death July Fourth.

She leaves her husband, John William Tucker; two sons, John W. Lytle, and J. L. Tucker of Torrance; and two daughters, Mrs. Annie Wilson, of Torrance, and Mrs. Jewel Gifford, of Avalon, California. Twelve grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren also survive.

Interment in Roosevelt Cemetery followed services.

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### ... Apology

(Continued from Page 1)

the Harval Truck Equipment Company.

Craven objected to Dralé's insinuation that he (Craven) was allied with the Los Angeles firm.

#### ASKED FOR APOLOGY

The automotive engineer had asked Dralé for a private apology but Dralé refused. He then made his demand for an apology in public before the City Council.

Craven had been recommended to make an investigation of the Torrance city garage by a high official of the Los Angeles Transit Company.

Dralé, apparently not favoring the investigation, voted against

the hiring of Craven for the two-month period.

The councilman, pointing out that some purchases were made outside of Torrance, failed to state that many of the items acquired were supplies not obtainable here.

"We can not buy a gear for a caterpillar tractor, or a transmission for a White bus in the City of Torrance, for example," offered City Manager George W. Stevens in support of Craven.

It was Stevens who made the recommendation that the council hire Craven to make the survey on the operation of the city's garage.

Dralé attempted to indicate that Stevens was "to blame" for hiring Craven.

#### GAVEL HALTS LUCKUS

It was only the rap of the Mayor's gavel that stopped Tuesday's meeting from becoming a verbal free-for-all. Stevens obviously irked and disgusted at Dralé's attitude and remarks challenged him, saying:

"Why should I be criticized for attempting to save the city of Torrance a considerable sum of money? That is what I was hired to do as City Manager.

"I agree that when ever we can buy parts from local businesses at the same competitive prices as elsewhere we should by all means do so. I do not feel we should purchase locally if it do so would work a financial hardship on all the taxpayers of Torrance. After all, most of the local merchants we buy from are Torrance taxpayers too," commented Stevens.

#### TWO PRONGED SPEAR

Dralé's chief weapon in the attack on Craven and his investigation of the garage operation was a two-pronged spear: First, he bid for favor of local merchants by insinuating the city purchasing agents were going outside the city to buy. He failed, however, to point out the lack of availability locally of the specialized parts required to maintain the odd pieces of city owned machinery. Second, he objected to the survey because he was fearful that some employees of the city might be laid off as the result of Craven's findings. Craven made no recommendation that the size of the present staff of the city garage be decreased.

The automotive engineer has recommended suggestions of streamlining the garage operation whereby the city can effect a saving as much as two cents per mile on operation costs.

Said Craven in his closing paragraph in his letter to the council:

"I believe Mr. Dralé owes me an apology and that the newspaper in question (not the Torrance Herald) should print the facts as they are set forth above."

He praised other members of the Council for the cooperation shown and assured them and the people of Torrance "that all expenditures made during this period were made in a business-like manner with a view to obtaining the best equipment possible at the lowest cost."

### ... Stranger

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Stanger followed her husband in an active fraternal life in both Masonic and American Legion Auxiliary activities. Stanger is a past Master of the Torrance Masonic Lodge and holds the only life-time membership in the local Legion post. He was also secretary of the Masonic lodge for eight years. Mrs. Stanger (Mrs. Stanger) has served for a number of terms as treasurer and secretary of the local Legion Auxiliary.

Mayor Bob L. Haggard (tributed Stanger in commenting on the latter's resignation.

"Few persons realize or will appreciate the many hours of long, hard work that Bill has given to his job during the past 17 years. His leaving creates a void in the operation of the city which will be difficult to fill," said the Mayor.

### Protest Sounded On Appointment

In spite of protests by one councilman, the Torrance City Council approved the appointment Tuesday night of Charles Schultz Jr. as a member of the Civil Service Commission to serve the unexpired term of Victor E. Benstead.

Objecting to the appointment was Councilman Nick Dralé.

"Inasmuch as I made the original recommendation regarding Benstead's appointment and since it is his vacancy we are filling, I think I ought to have the right to fill it," Dralé said.

Dralé backed Benstead in the latter's unsuccessful campaign in the last city council election. "Mr. Dralé," a reporter asked, "did Benstead resign his post on the civil service commission so that he might be eligible to try again for a seat on the city council?"

"You had better phone Benstead for the answer to that," suggested Dralé.

A city ordinance, the "Anti-Springboard Law" rules a city council candidate ineligible if that candidate has served on any city board or commission or committee within 12 months preceding an election.

Benstead resigned his position

### ... Valuation

(Continued from Page 1)

add an estimated \$3,000,000 to the total worth of the city. While city officials were hoping for at least a six per cent increase and school officials were looking for a 10 per cent increase, the actual valuation represented approximately a four per cent jump.

Although Torrance is enjoying the greatest building activity in its history, most of the new construction is in new homes. Strangely enough it was lack of adequate water mains and other water facilities blamed for the lower-than-expected increase. Few new industries opened in Torrance during the last year. Reason for this in some cases was the city's inability to supply the new industries with water. The city has the water but not the proper feeder lines to service the new industries.

**LOSS CITED**  
One such industrial loss was the switch from Torrance to East Los Angeles of the \$10,000,000 Lever Brothers soap plant. Although the valuation, which is used as a basis for determining revenue for the city of Torrance and the Torrance Unified School district, was lower than expected and therefore decreased the anticipated revenue to both agencies, two "lucky breaks" offset the drop in revenue.

The city was informed this week that its share of retirement money due to the state would be \$10,000 less than last year. This almost exactly offsets the loss in revenue to the city. The push-pull shifting of city income re-balances the budget, according to City Manager George W. Stevens.

**CAN HOLD LINE**  
"Unless the council grants some of the requests of city employees for a pay raise, we will be able to hold the line on the 5 1/2% tax rate of last year," Stevens claims.

Meanwhile the local school district received an adjustment in the timing of state aid that will offset the loss in anticipated revenue and it is expected that the school tax rate may drop about five cents per hundred dollars of evaluation.

Earlier this year the school district had anticipated a lowering of the school tax rate of about 20 cents. This dream faded when the state legislature lowered school aid from a proposed \$48,000,000 appropriation to \$13,000,000. Another factor which "saved the day" for local school budgeting was the fact that the school officials used 97 per cent of the estimated valuation instead of 100 per cent in figuring the coming year's budget.

### Heart Victim:

## Man, 50 Years A Steelmaker, Dies at Work in Local Mill

A half century of employment with U. S. Steel came to a peaceful and quiet end Sunday night at 9:30 for Joe McNally Sr., who died of a heart attack at work in the Sheet Mill at Columbia Steel.

The 66-year old steelworker complained of "not feeling too well" and sat down for a brief rest. He dropped off into a slumber from which he never awoke. Fellow employees in the mill went to awaken him a few moments later and discovered he had died.

**STARTED AT 13**  
McNally first went to work for U. S. Steel parent company of Columbia Steel, when he was 13 years old. He worked both in Pennsylvania and at Columbia Steel in Torrance.

Born in Scotdale, Penn. in 1885, the senior McNally brought his family to Torrance in 1928. He had been living with his son Joe McNally Jr., at 1532 West 216th street for the past six

years. Surviving him are three sons, two of Torrance and one in Lomita, and three daughters, one of whom lives here. They are, Joe Jr., of the address above; Richard E., of 1552 West 216th street; Robert J., of Lomita; Mrs. Dorothy Lee Andrade, 23013 Dolores street; Mrs. Marjorie Hyman of Tacoma, Wash. and Mrs. Eloise Strinz of Wilmark Calif.

The elder McNally was active in the CIO and was at the time of his death a member of the Grievance Committee of the sheet mill. Joe Jr. is chairman of the Grievance Committee of Local 1414, United Steelworkers of America. Richard McNally is manager of the Columbia Steel Hospitalization Plan. Robert is employed as a stillman at the General Petroleum Refinery.

The deceased was a member of the Elks Lodge and the Knights of Columbus.

Rosary was recited at 8 p.m. on Tuesday in the Stone and Myers Chapel who are in charge of arrangements. Mass was celebrated at 10 a.m. on Wednesday in the Catholic Church of the Nativity.

Father Patrick J. McGuinness officiated at the rites.

Interment followed in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Fellow workers at Columbia Steel served as pallbearers.

### Rotarians, Guests Visit Scene of Earlier Treks

Answering the call for an old-timer's reunion, a group of 33 members and guests of the Torrance Rotary Club picnicked at the Warren W. Johnston ranch near Escondido Sunday. This was the historic scene of three previous festive Rotary treks during the years 1928-29-30.

Besides the changes that the past quarter century has made in the Rotarians, a noticeable improvement in the Johnston ranch was noted. Highlight of the visit was an inspection of an old-time water mill, replica of the type used by the pioneers in grinding grain. It was built by Warren Johnston. Water from the mill race cataracts through the spacious outdoor patio where the picnic was served and the "yarns" spun of the "good old days before the New Deal."

Attending from Torrance were Messrs. and Mesdames Eugene DeBra, Charles V. Jones, Sam Levy, L. B. Kelsey, J. Wallace

Post, George Peckham, R. R. Smith, Grover C. Whyte, Harvel Guttentfelder and Mr. Don Findley; from San Marino, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Reeve; from South Pasadena, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McMillan; from Redlands, Mr. and Mrs. Monty Darling. Miss Marjorie Johnston assisted her parents in serving coffee and delicious wild berries from the countryside. The reunion celebration was inspired and charmed by Don Findley, veteran club secretary during the early days of Torrance Rotary.

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1-Lge. 12-oz. Reg. 19c Pkg. and 1-8-oz. Reg. 15c Pkg. of Both For **24c**

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**S & F, FANCY COFFEE 79c**  
ALL GRINDS FULL 1-LB. CANS  
**MILK 25c**  
GOLDEN STATE CANNED 2 TALL CANS

**TOSHI'S FRESH FRUITS and VEGETABLES**  
GUARANTEED RIPE **Watermelon 2 1/2 c.**  
FRESH TENDER **STRING BEANS 3 Lbs. 10c**  
SWEET SEEDLESS **GRAPES 15c lb.**  
CANNING **APRICOTS \$1.29 Lug**  
19 lb. Average

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